

<b>FILED</b>
Date _____
Time _____
Clerk _____
Comm. Amdt. _____
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AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature of Sponsor

**AMEND Senate Bill No. 2792**

**House Bill No. 2497\***

by deleting all language after the enacting clause and by substituting instead the following:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 4, is amended by adding the following as an appropriately numbered new section:

Section\_\_\_\_. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary:

IF:

(1) a report of child brutality, abuse or neglect is made in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-403; and

(2) the department or the child protection team, where appropriate, has not proceeded with an investigation of the report within seven (7) days from the date the report is made;

THEN the department shall notify the office of the sheriff of the county or the chief law enforcement official of the municipality where the child resides and the sheriff or law enforcement official so notified shall initiate a criminal investigation concerning the information contained in the report. Such law enforcement official making the investigation shall inform the department of the results of the investigation and continue the investigation as is necessary. Initiation of such criminal investigation by such sheriff or chief law enforcement official pursuant to the provisions of this section does not relieve the department or the child protection team of its duty to proceed with an investigation of the report in accordance with the provisions of this part.

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SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 37, Chapter 1, Part 6, is amended by adding the following as an appropriately numbered new section:

Section\_\_\_\_. Notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary:

IF:

(1) a report of child sexual abuse is made in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-605; and

(2) the department or the child protection team as defined in §37-1-602, where appropriate, has not proceeded with an investigation of the report within seven (7) days from the date the report is made;

THEN the department shall notify the office of the sheriff of the county or the chief law enforcement official of the municipality where the child resides and the sheriff or law enforcement official so notified shall initiate a criminal investigation concerning the information contained in the report. Such law enforcement official making the investigation shall inform the department of the results of the investigation and continue the investigation as is necessary.

Initiation of such criminal investigation by such sheriff or chief law enforcement official pursuant to the provisions of this section does not relieve the department or the child protection team of its duty to proceed with an investigation of the report in accordance with the provisions of this part.

SECTION 3. Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 39, Chapter 15, Part 4, is amended by adding the following as an appropriately numbered new section:

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Section\_\_\_\_. If a report or allegation that the offense of child abuse and neglect under Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-401, or aggravated child abuse and neglect under Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 39-15-402 has been committed and a report is made in accordance with the provisions of Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 37-1-605 or 37-1-403, then notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary the provisions of Section 1 and 2 of this act shall apply with regard to initiating a criminal investigation concerning the information contained in such report.

. SECTION 4. This act shall take effect July 1, 1998, the public welfare requiring it.

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